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MESSAGE

OF

ALBINUS NANCE

GOVERNOR,

TO THE

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA.

EIGHTEENTH SESSION, 1883.

LINCOLN, NEB.:
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GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives:

Legislative authority has been conferred upon you at an auspicious period in the history of the State. Since the last regular session of the Legislature there has been a marked degree of prosperity in every department of industry, and our growth in population and wealth has been a marvelous event, even to those who had indulged the most sanguine anticipations in contemplating the possibilities of the future. A brief review of our State history may be profitably considered in this connection. At the date of admission into the Union, in 1867, the population of Nebraska was estimated at 70,000, and the aggregate valuation of the taxable property of the State was $20,115,252. The population at the present time, as estimated on the basis of a moderate increase over the census of 1880, is not less than 600,000. The total assessed value of property as shown by the grand assessment roll of 1882, on file in the office of the State Auditor, is $98,537,475.11.

The sparse settlements of 1867 were remote from centres of trade and railroad connections, and were deprived of most of the comforts of life. The people of Nebraska are now brought into close relations with the commercial and social world, and it is a gratifying fact that every organized county in the State, except eight, has railroad facilities. Two principal agencies have accomplished this transformation. The homesteaders, under the liberal policy of the general government, accepting a heritage which in itself was a valuable legacy, have toiled from year to year with

untiring energy and splendid success in improving the lands thus secured. The capitalists of this and other countries having a degree of faith in our future which has been more than justified by results, pushed the work of railroad extension in Nebraska with unexampled zeal and thus opened the way for the large immigration which followed from the Eastern States and the old world.

The policy of the General Government, in granting aid to railroads, as in giving homesteads to settlers, was designed to promote the common welfare, and it speedily gave us a railroad system which has been a potent agency in developing our natural resources. The practical co-operation of the above mentioned agencies has brought us to a period of prosperity which is contemplated with feelings of pride by every citizen of Nebraska.

FINANCIAL.

The condition of the State finances has materially improved since the date of my last biennial message, although the treasury has not yet fully recovered from the embarrassing results of the Act of 1879, limiting the rate of taxation for general purposes to two mills on the dollar. The increased levy of 1881 has afforded partial relief, and under the energetic management of the Treasurer all liabilities of the State have been promptly met. It is believed that no serious complications can occur before the general fund will be sufficient to cover all expenditures.

On the 19th of October, 1882, the Board of Investment, created by Art. 13, Chap. 83 of the Compiled Statutes, decided that the U. S. 4 per cent. bonds, amounting to $50,000, heretofore purchased by direction of the Board, should be sold on the best terms to be obtained for the purpose of sustaining the public credit and meeting current demands upon the treasury. The sale was effected and upon the 23d of October the returns were

placed to the credit of the State. The transaction is accurately set forth in the following statement: Original cost of bonds at $1.03 1-16 (less charges) $51,718.75. Amount realized on sale at $1.19½, $59,750. Profit on investment, $8,031.25. Interest received on bonds to date of sale by the State, $5,500. Total profit, $13,531.25.

The receipts and disbursements of the treasury for the two years ending November 30th, 1882, as shown by the treasurers report were as follows:

Balance in Treasury November 30th, 1880.....	$ 343,018.61
Receipts from all sources during the two years ending Nov. 30th, 1882, including transfers.....	1,943,307.64
Total amount.....	2,286,326.25
Disbursed during same period, including transfers	1,814,211.75
Balance on hand Nov. 30th, 1882.....	472,114.50

The bonded indebtedness of the State remains as reported in my last biennial message, viz:

Relief bonds due in 1885.....	50,000.00
Funding bonds due in 1897.....	449,267.35
Total.....	499,267.35

Under the Relief Bond Act of 1875, provision was made for paying the interest and principal of the Bonds by levying an annual tax of one-tenth of one mill. Subsequently this part of the act was repealed and it was provided that the interest and principal of the bonds shall be paid out of the Sinking Fund. This left a balance of $10,643.38 credited to the Relief Bond fund, and as the bonds will become due in 1885, I concur in the opinion of the Treasurer that the above amount should be transferred to the sinking fund.

AUDITOR'S DEPARTMENT.

The aggregate valuation of property assessed for taxation in 1881, as shown by the Auditor's report, was $93,142,456.99, and in 1882, $98,537,475.11. The rates of levy and amounts that will accrue to the State on the assessment of 1882, are as follows:

General fund,	4½ mills	$ 437,874.44
Sinking fund,	¼ "	23,726.15
School fund,	1 "	98,537.47
University fund,	⅜ "	36,951.56
Total		$ 597,089.62

A special effort has been made to collect delinquent taxes by county treasurers, and they have been uniformly successful.

The Auditor calls attention to the fact that $6,396.51 of the $10,000 appropriated in 1881 for the purpose of furnishing revenue books and blanks to the several counties was necessarily used to pay for books and blanks previously furnished, leaving only the small amount of $3,603.49 to be used for that purpose during the past two years, and the result is a deficiency of $7,-612.54. An appropriation of $18,000 to cover the deficiency and provide supplies for the next two years is recommended by the Auditor.

The fees collected in the insurance department of the Auditor's office during the two years ending Nov. 30th, 1882, amounted to $14,178.62, being more than the amount appropriated for the expenses of that department during the same period of time.

Under Sec. 19, Art. 3, of the Constitution you are required to provide for the payment of the expenses of the State government from March 31st, 1883 to March 31st, 1885. The estimates made, as the law provides, by the several State officers and

heads of departments, showing the amounts that will be needed for that purpose, appear in the appendix herewith submitted.

LAND COMMISSIONER'S DEPARTMENT.

A very satisfactory exhibit is made in the report of the land commissioner showing the transactions of that office during the two years ending Nov. 30th, 1882. The business of the department has been thoroughly systematized and commendable progress has been made in ascertaining the status of school lands sold and leased in former years and upon which purchasers and lessees are in default for non-payment of interest or rentals. A considerable amount of these lands have reverted to the State and have been promptly leased by other parties.

The amount of interest and rentals due the State and now delinquent, on school land sales and leases is $92,984, an increase of $13,950 over the amount due in 1880. This result is doubtless due to the fact that many irresponsible persons have purchased or leased school lands solely for speculative purposes, and to the further fact that the power of the State to enforce or annul these contracts is not sufficiently well defined. I therefore recommend that the Board of Educational Lands and Funds be authorized to cancel all school land contracts upon which the purchaser or lessee is in default for non-payment of interest or rentals for a longer period than two years.

In my last biennial message I called attention to the provision of the act of 1879, allowing parties holding educational lands under lease to purchase them, and asked that it be modified so as to authorize the Board of Educational Lands and Funds to withhold contracts when the appraisement is manifestly too low. No action was taken by the Legislature and this obnoxious feature of the law continues in force. Parties may conspire to de-

fraud the state by a dishonest appraisement and the Board has no power to defeat the conspiracy, as a contract must issue when the law has been complied with. I urgently renew the recommendation I made at that time, believing that you will realize the importance of amending the act in the manner suggested.

In July, 1880, the General Land Commissioner addressed a letter to the Land Commissioner of this state informing him that in order to reach a satisfactory settlement of claims for indemnity due the State outside of Indian reservations, a carefully prepared list of the deficiencies occurring in each of said sections, (16 and 36), "giving credit against each section for the indemnity which may have been selected therefor and approved," should be forwarded to the General Land Office for comparison with its records.

Of the class of lands above referred to, over 8,000 acres are still due the state. The records of the Land Commissioner's office do not furnish the necessary data for the report required by the General Land Commissioner. In order to prepare such a report a visit to each of the U. S. land offices in the State for the purpose of examining plats and records would be necessary. The force employed in the Land Commissioner's office will not admit of a detail sufficient for that purpose. I concur in the recommendation of the Commissioner that an appropriation be made to enable the Board of Educational Lands and Funds to procure the necessary data and prepare the lists called for by the General Land Commissioner.

In conformity with a decision made in 1880 by the Commissioner of the General Land Office, the substance of which was embodied in my last biennial message, under which the State was allowed indemnity for school lands in lieu of sections 16 and 36 within the Otoe and Pawnee Indian Reservations, the Land

Commissioner and Attorney General acting under the direction of the Board of Educational Lands and Funds, made a selection of lands on the 14th of October, 1881, in lieu of a portion of the double minimum lands within said reservations—aggregating 11,944.06 acres. A list of the lands selected was filed in the land office at North Platte, and the attention of the General Land Commissioner has been repeatedly called to the subject, but these lands have not yet been confirmed to the State. In view of this extraordinary delay, the Land Commissioner suggests that an agent of the State should personally represent its interests in this matter at Washington.

The large and increasing volume of business and numerous complications that have arisen in consequence of the imperfect manner in which the management and disposition of educational lands was conducted prior to the organization of the Land Department, has prompted the Commissioner to draft a bill embodying proposed legislation which is considered essential to the proper management of that department. The various suggestions therein contained will be considered by the Board of Educational Lands and Funds, with a view to reporting the bill to the Legislature in a satisfactory form. I trust that it will have your careful consideration, and that a liberal policy will be pursued in affording facilities which will enable the Land Department to properly control, preserve and utilize our large endowment of Educational Lands and Funds.

The number of acres of these lands held by the State, November 30th, 1882, was 2,582,366.65. Of this amount 217,030 acres have been sold but not deeded, 489,440 have been leased, leaving 1,872,846.65 acres subject to sale or lease. During the two years preceding the above date 274,699.70 acres were leased at an esti-

mated aggregate valuation of $824,099.10. During the same period 88,627 acres were sold for the sum of $657,971.42, being an average of $7.42 per acre.

EDUCATIONAL.

The report of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction embodies a fund of valuable information concerning the common school system of the State, the various institutions of learning, and other educational interests. The school attendance in 1882 was 115,546, an increase of 14,770 over the number in attendance the previous year. The total value of school property is estimated at $2,054,049.18. The report contains a carefully prepared statement of the Permanent School Fund, showing the manner in which it is invested and the aggregate amount, as follows:

Cash in Treasury Nov. 30th, 1882	$ 135,208.37
U. S. 4 per cent. Bonds	15,000.00
County Bonds	303,600.00
Mortgages	4000.00
State Funding Bonds	326,267.35
Claims in hands of Atty. General for collection	7,692.23
Notes from sales of School Lands	1,470,919.49
Grand Total	$2,262,687.44

The fund derived from this endowment has increased from year to year in about the same proportion, as the increase of population consequently the distribution *per capita*, has not materially changed.

The graded schools of the State are justifying the anticipations of those who have given attention to this feature of our educational system, and it is evident that they have established

a higher professional standard among teachers, from which pupils have derived corresponding benefits.

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the law in regard to holding institutes be changed so as to make the attendance of teachers compulsory. If held while schools are in progress, it is recommended by him that they be temporarily suspended, and that the several school boards be required to pay half wages for the time that teachers are thus necessarily absent.

A small appropriation is asked for by the State Superintendent to be used in publishing and distributing plans for the construction of school houses. In view of the fact that the most obvious and important sanitary considerations are frequently ignored in the construction of such buildings, any suggestions that may lead to improvements in this particular, should have proper consideration.

STATE UNIVERSITY.

The unfortunate controversy which was for some time a disturbing element in connection with the affairs of the State University has been brought to a close, and the Faculty is in process of reorganization upon a basis which enables the institution to enter upon a period of enlarged usefulness and prosperity. The position of Chancellor will undoubtedly be filled by the Board of Regents at an early period.

A fund has been accumulating in the State Treasury known as the Regent's fund, derived from the leasing of University lands and from other sources. It is suggested by the Board of Regents that the amount now on hand, viz: $8,115.91 be appropriated for the use of the University to make necessary repairs and cover

other incidental expenses. It is recommended also by the Board that the levy of ⅜ of a mill be continued for the present.

STATE NORMAL SCHOOL.

A period of uninterrupted prosperity is reported by the Principal of the State Normal School—the last year being the most prosperous in its history. The catalogue shows an attendance of 318 students. It is believed that, in point of efficiency, the school will compare favorably with similar institutions in other states.

This institu-ion is exclusively devoted to the work of preparing students for the profession of teaching, and while all who graduate may not follow this vocation, it will undoubtedly add large numbers to the roll of thoroughly competent teachers in our common schools. The wants of the school and appropriations required for the ensuing two years are fully set forth in the report of the Principal, to which you are referred for additional information.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

The report of the Secretary of State embodies important details concerning the business of that department and contains recommendations which are the results of long experience in connection with State affairs. An elaborate plan for letting State printing contracts, covering all kinds of work of this character, is submitted by the Secretary and is worthy of consideration.

It is recommended by the Secretary that the present limitation upon the number of notaries public for each county be removed. In view of the fact that the quota is ample for some counties and not sufficient for others, the law should be amended so as to allow a larger number to be appointed in each county, or the limitation should be wholly removed. The basis upon which the quota

is fixed under the existing law is variable and unsatisfactory. The vote in some of the counties was lighter at the late election than at the election of 1880, and the quota of notaries is decreased, although the population is undoubtedly greater than it was at that time.

The Secretary recommends the repeal of the Act of 1869, providing for an annual State Census, as the law is inoperative in some counties, the returns therefore being of little value. Instead of an annual census it is recommended that a State census be taken in the year 1885, and every ten years thereafter, thus alternating with the U. S. census.

STATE LIBRARY.

The report of the State Librarian shows 21,487 volumes now on the shelves of the library. It has been recently arranged in more commodious quarters on the ground floor of the east wing, and comprises a large number of very valuable and important works. I heartily endorse the recommendations of the Librarian relative to the building up of its Nebraska Department of History, and trust that the citizens of the State will add thereto by voluntary contributions of reliable data covering important events in the history of the State.

STATE INSTITUTIONS.

The management of the charitable, reformatory and penal institutions of the State during the past two years, has been without exception eminently satisfactory.

HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.

The biennial report of the Superintendent of the Hospital for the Insane will inform you in regard to the management and

wants of that institution. On the 30th of Nov. 1880, there were 193 patients. During the two years following, 288 were received, 165 discharged, 1 escaped and 42 died, leaving 273 in the Hospital, Nov. 30, 1882. The Superintendent has been able to receive all insane persons whom he has been asked to admit. The Hospital farm has been very productive during the past year and the crops produced have materially decreased the average cost of maintaining the inmates.

I invite special attention to the recommendations of the Superintendent in relation to building an engine house and providing an ample supply of water. These recommendations are considered very important, as a disastrous conflagration is liable to originate in the boiler room, which is now in the centre of the basement of the main building.

The new wings of the Hospital provided for by the Legislature at its last regular session are rapidly approaching completion. It will be your duty to make suitable provision for furnishing and preparing them for occupation.

The Superintendent's report shows that there has been considerable difficulty and much irregularity in making collections from the several counties of amounts due the State for the support of their insane. Some of the most populous and wealthy counties, having the largest number of inmates, pay the smallest amounts for that purpose. This evil should be promptly corrected.

The generous policy heretofore pursued by the State for the purpose of ameliorating the condition of the insane has been highly creditable, and I trust that the same fostering care will continue to be exercised in providing for the wants of this institution. Much important information concerning the business management of the Hospital, including a detailed statement show-

ing the crop yield of the farm connected therewith will be found in the Steward's report.

The average cost *per capita* per week of maintaining the inmates of the asylum, including salaries and expenses of every kind during the past two years has been $3.24½.

INSTITUTE FOR THE DEAF AND DUMB.

At the regular session of 1881, the Legislature provided for the construction of an additional building in connection with the Institute for the Deaf and Dumb. The building has been erected and completed by contract under the general supervision of the Board of Public Lands and Buildings and is now partly occupied. It is a brick structure forty-two feet (42) by sixty-six (66), with basement and three stories. An appropriation for the purpose of furnishing the new building is needed. Other valuable improvements have been made, and the institute is generally in a very satisfactory condition. It is recommended by the principal that an additional amount of land contiguous to the Institute be purchased for its benefit. A number of interesting features have been added to the methods of instruction. The use of the vocal organs has been taught with the aid of the audiphone, and the experiment has been remarkably successful.

A printing office is successfully operated by the pupils and they are issuing a semi-monthly journal which is very creditably conducted, and all expenses connected with its publication are met by subscriptions and advertising patronage. The total number of pupils in attendance is 120, an increase of 24 over the number reported two years ago. The average cost *per capita* per week of maintenance of inmates has been $3.29.

Applications have been made to secure the admission of feeble-minded children, and I earnestly endorse the opinion expressed

by the principal that the time has arrived when an institution for this class of unfortunates should be organized either on an independent basis or in connection with some other State charitable institution.

INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND.

The educational and industrial departments of the Institute for the Blind have been conducted with gratifying success. In addition to obtaining a thorough education the pupils are becoming proficient in various branches of industry, and a majority of them will become self-supporting. The number enrolled at the present time is twenty-five. The principal asks that an appropriation of $3,000 be made for the purpose of providing the building with steam heating apparatus. The average cost *per capita* per week of maintaining the inmates during the past two years has been $5.33.

STATE REFORM SCHOOL.

In accordance with the act of the Legislature of 1881, providing for the organization of a State Reform School at Kearney, the Board of Public Lands and Buildings on the 29th of April of that year, appointed Hon. Geo. W. Collins Superintendent, and also appointed the subordinate officers authorized by said act. The school was formally opened in June, 1881, and has been successfully operated since that time. There are now thirty-seven inmates, and the capacity of the building is only sufficient to comfortably accommodate thirty. The construction of a building or buildings sufficient for one hundred and fifty inmates is recommended by the Board of Public Lands and Buildings and also by the Superintendent. The tendency of the Reform School to repress and prevent the commission of crime is indisputable,

and if supported on a liberal scale it will prevent large expenditures for the punishment of hardened criminals. If viewed only from a humane stand-point the school should have every encouragement, as it enables the State to rescue a large number of children from vicious surroundings and give them the advantages of a good education together with well established habits of industry.

Your attention is directed to the fact that while the law provides that the State shall pay all necessary expenses connected with the transportation of juvenile offenders sent to the Reform School, no appropriation has been made for that purpose.

PENITENTIARY.

Under the effective management of the Warden of the Penitentiary the affairs of that institution have been conducted in a very satisfactory manner during the past two years.

Your attention is especially called to the recommendation of the Warden that an appropriation be made for the purpose of providing an abundant supply of water. Whether this can be best accomplished by means of an artesian well, or otherwise, is a question which you will be able to determine after obtaining accurate knowledge of the situation. It is unquestionably the duty of the State to furnish the supply of water required, and this duty should no longer be neglected. In connection with this improvement a thorough system of sewerage should be provided. Other important recommendations are made in the Warden's report, to which I also refer you for statements in detail concerning the wants of the prison.

The act approved Feb. 26th, 1879, extending the contract for lease of penitentiary and of the labor of the convicts, provides that after January 1st, 1884, Nebraska prisoners only shall be

kept in said penitentiary. At that date the prison will contain a number of United States, New Mexico and Wyoming prisoners, sentenced for a period extending beyond that time, while the act of our own Legislature makes it the duty of the Warden to exclude them from the prison. The complications that may arise in consequence of this state of affairs should be avoided by proper legislation.

The state of discipline in the prison has been all that could be desired and the health of the convicts under the excellent medical supervision of the prison physician has been exceptionally good, only one death having occurred in the last two years. The number of prisoners reported by the warden on the 30th of November, 1882 was 261. Of these, three are United States prisoners, seven are from New Mexico and thirty-nine from Wyoming—leaving two hundred and twelve that are State convicts—an increase of only-six over the number reported two years ago.

MILITARY AFFAIRS.

An elaborate report of the military affairs of the State is made by the Adjutant General covering the period that has elapsed since the organization of the National Guard in 1881. You will find therein a carefully prepared history of the organization of the 1st regiment N. N. G. and of the Blue Springs Light Artillery; also a multitude of details concerning their equipment.

The operations of the military in connection with the suppression of the riots at Omaha having been fully set forth in my message to the Legislature at the special session in May, 1882, it is not necessary to enlarge upon the subject at this time, but I take pleasure in again testifying to the efficiency of the State troops on that occasion, and repeat the statement then made that the

results justified the wisdom of the legislature in providing for a more thorough military organization.

The recommendation of the Adjutant General that an appropriation be made sufficient to enable the National Guard to hold an encampment annually has my earnest approval, as it is impossible to maintain an effective military organization of this character without affording proper facilities for instruction and drill.

The very thorough and critical report of the Inspector General will enable you to arrive at proper conclusions concerning the state of discipline that prevails and the legislation that is necessary to give greater efficiency to the service. The principal causes of dissatisfaction mentioned by the Inspector General have recently been removed. Until the beginning of November, 1882, the companies had provided their own uniforms, as it was not considered advisable to use any portion of the military appropriation for that purpose. Within the last sixty days seven companies of the Guard have been provided with U. S. regulation fatigue uniforms, and are now in all respects well equipped. The payment of armory rent for the regiment and the expense of providing uniforms as above stated wholly exhausted the military appropriation. The remaining companies should be uniformed in like manner as soon as practicable. I concur in the recommendation made by the Adjutant General that an appropriation of $5,000 per annum be made for the purpose of defraying the necessary expenses of the military organization of the State during the next two years.

I refer you to the carefully prepared report of the Quartermaster General for details concerning the military property of the State, distribution of ordinance stores, receipts and disbursements of money, and other matters connected with his department.

In taking leave of this subject my connection with the military

affairs of the State is brought to a close, and I avail myself of the opportunity to express my gratitude to the officers of my personal staff as well as to the officers and enlisted men of the Guard for their fidelity to duty and earnest co-operation in every effort to increase the efficiency of our military service.

RAILROAD LEGISLATION.

Important questions of State policy involving, the regulation of rates of transportation over railroads, require your careful consideration. The problem is comparatively a new one in State and National affairs, and its solution is attended with difficulties of a complicated character. To determine what legislation is necessary for the purpose of subjecting railroad corporations to proper legal control without injustice to the people or the railroads requires a very thorough knowledge of railroad construction and management, and also a clear understanding of the abuses complained of by the public. Judicious legislation, to accomplish this object, is demanded by the substantial business men and farmers of the State. The clamor of those who are conducting an indiscriminate war upon railroads for the obvious purpose of advancing their own personal or political interests should be studiously ignored. It is as much your duty to prevent mischievous legislation upon this subject, as it is to provide that which is based upon exact principles of justice.

In the state of Illinois every phase of the question has been under consideration during the past twelve years, and by means of a Board of Railroad Commissioners, equitable rates of transportation have been established and many of the abuses complained of corrected. An examination of the laws of that State will show that the Commissioners have power to fix maximum rates of transportation which shall be *prima facie* evidence of

reasonableness, and as the burden of proof is on the railroad corporations whenever an attempt is made by them to establish the reasonableness of higher rates, the result is that the schedules prepared by the Commissioners are usually accepted by the railroad companies as conclusive. The law, however, does not prevent them from establishing higher rates by going into the Courts and demonstrating their reasonableness before a jury of the people. In the report of the Commissioners for 1881, page 20, the statement is made that " the right to fix reasonable maximum rates for the transportation of freights and passengers by railroads, either by direct statute or by officers created by law, is no longer seriously questioned." The enforcement of the Illinois act of 1873, to prevent extortion and unjust discrimination in the matter of giving special rates and rebates has been attended with greater difficulties, but the Commissioners have made very satisfactory progress in that direction.

I also invite your attention to the laws of Iowa providing for the organization of a Board of Railway Commissioners, and to their subsequent reports and proceedings. The general results in that State have justified the act of the legislature creating the Board. The reports of the Commissioners, both of Illinois and Iowa, contain a mass of valuable information bearing upon every feature of the question, and may be studied with profit by all who are interested in securing impartial legislation upon this subject in our own State.

While I do not assume that the Commission system is the only practicable method of dealing with the problem, I regard it as the best that has yet been devised. My opinion is strengthened by the fact that during the past fifteen years it has been steadily gaining in popular favor and has been adopted by about twenty States.

Believing that you will be guided by wise counsels in whatever action you may take upon this important subject, I pass to the consideration of other topics.

STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION.

A common misapprehension exists concerning the duties and powers of the State Board of Equalization in connection with the assessment of railroad property, and I therefore invite your attention to the act of 1881 on this subject, wherein it is provided that the president, secretary, superintendent or other principal officers within this State, of every railroad and telegraph company shall list and return to the Auditor of Public Accounts for assessment aud taxation, "the number of miles of such railroad and telegraph line in each organized county in the State, and the total number of miles in the State, including the roadbed, right of way, and superstructures thereon, main and side tracks, depot buildings and depot grounds, section and tool houses-rolling stock and personal property necessary for the construc, tion, repairs, or successful operation of such railroad and telegraph lines."

The tangible property above described is the only railroad property that is subject to assessment by the Board.

Section I Article IX of the Constitution makes it the duty of the Legislature to provide for the assessment of the property and franchises of individuals and corporations, but there has been no legislation to give effect to that part of the Constitution relating to franchises, and the Board has no authority to assess this species of property.

No official duty which the several State officers comprising the Board are called upon to perform, is so liable to misconstruction and censure, as that of assessing railroad property. The problem is

complex in itself and is made more difficult by the loose manner in which all property is assessed for taxation. It would doubtless be agreeable to the Board to be relieved of this duty if it could be done in a manner not prejudicial to the best interests of the State.

Railroad property has been listed for taxation by the various companies under oath as provided by law, and every means within the power of the Board has been employed to obtain a fair and just valuation of the property so listed. In the judgment of the Board such property has been assessed at a valuation corresponding with that of other property throughout the State. In fact, if a comparison with assessments of railroad property, and of other property, made in other states may be taken as a guide, it will be found that under the present law the taxation of railroad property has been higher comparatively, in this State, than in most others.

The section of the constitution cited above declares that the Legislature "Shall provide such revenue as may be needful, by levying a tax by valuation, so that every person and corporation shall pay a tax in proportion to the value of his, her or its property and franchises," and the present revenue law provides for the valuation of personal property "at its fair cash value," and realty "at its fair value estimated at the price it would bring at a voluntary sale thereof," but through the influence of public opinion and an established custom more potent than law, these provisions have been universally ignored, and all property has been valued for taxation at less than half its real value. The embarrassing position in which the State Board of Equalization as well as all County Boards and Precinct Assessors are placed by this demoralizing custom is obvious to all.

I trust that this subject, in all of its bearings, may receive the consideration that its importance demands, and that you will devise a method by which the difficulties encountered in endeavoring to fix a correct and uniform valuation upon all property listed for taxation may be entirely removed.

STATE LITIGATION.

The several cases in which the State is interested now pending or recently decided, are reported by the Attorney General and published in the appendix hereto attached. The large amount of legal business of this character transacted during the past two years, has imposed no charges upon the State for counsel fees, and I call attention to this fact as a tribute to the fidelity and efficiency of the Attorney General, to whom I am also under many obligations for the valuable aid that he has rendered me in the discharge of my official duties.

FISH COMMISSION.

The work of the Board of Fish Commissioners was seriously retarded in the early part of 1881, by the death of Hon. H. S. Kaley, who was a member of the Board. In September of that year, Hon. B. E. B. Kennedy was appointed to fill the vacancy and negotiations were soon after commenced for the purchase of the Hatchery of Messrs. Romaine & Decker in Sarpy county, and in March, 1882, the purchase was consummated. This property embraces fifty-two acres of land upon which is situated a water supply which is considered the finest in the State for a Hatchery. In October, 1881, the Commissioners received from the U. S. Commissioner of Fisheries, 500,000 Salmon eggs which were immediately hatched, and the young fish distributed in the streams of the State. In November of that year the Commission

obtained a supply of German Carp, a very valuable fish which may be readily propagated for food by every farmer who will provide himself with the proper facilities. The Commissioners have also obtained and distributed a considerable number of brook and California trout.

Substantial improvements were made in connection with the Hatchery during the fall and summer of 1882. The zeal and energy of the Board in prosecuting its work is worthy of special commendation. I again call attention to the fact that the Legislature has provided no compensation for services performed by the Commissioners, nor for the payment of actual expenses incurred by them while employed in their official capacity. I refer you to their report for further details in regard to the work accomplished, and the appropriation that will be necessary to continue their operations during the ensuing two yerrs.

NEW COUNTIES.

It will be your duty to fix the boundaries of one or more new counties, to include portions of unorganized territory in the western part of the State. The rapid extension of railroads in that direction and corresponding increase of population, has created a necessity for immediate legislation upon this subject. I recommend that the act be framed so that it will clearly designate the Judicial district to which such new County or Counties will become attached when fully organized.

JUDICIAL DISTRICTS.

The administration of justice has been seriously retarded in a number of the Judicial Districts of the State by the large increase of business in the district courts. Legislation for the purpose of increasing the number of judges and judicial districts is in my judgment imperatively demanded.

PARDONS.

Executive clemency has been exercised in one case during the past two years, the reasons for which will be found in the appendix published herewith.

CLAIMS AGAINST THE STATE.

The Legislature of 1873, by joint resolution, authorized the Governor "to appoint an Agent or Agents to prosecute to a final decision before Congress or in the courts the claim of this State for the five per cent due from the United States upon the lands of this State disposed of by Indian Reservations, and by the location of military land warrants and land scrip issued for military service in the wars of the United States and for Agricultural College Scrip and railroad lands." The compensation to be such as may be agreed upon by the Governor and Agent or Agents so appointed, payable after the collection of said claims in whole or in part. In pursuance of the authority so conferred, Gov. Furnas entered into a contract with Thomas P. Kennard, under which said Kennard agreed to prosecute said claims, and receive as compensation for his services fifty per cent. of the amount collected.

In the month of Jannary, 1882, I was notified by the Treasury Department at Washington that an account had been adjusted between the United States and the State of Nebraska for the five per cent upon net proceeds of the sales of lands embraced within the Pawnee Indian Reservation amounting to $6,275.89. I was also informed that the amount had been carried to the credit of the State on account of the direct tax provided by Sec. 8, Act of August 5th, 1861, U. S. Statutes, 12, P. 292. I at once notified the Treasury Department that the amount found due belonged to the Permanent School fund of the State, and asked that it be

remitted at once. In the month of September following, a draft was received by me and made payable to my order as Governor, covering the amount of the above mentioned claim. Mr. Kennard then filed a statement wherein he claimed that under the contract above specified, he was entitled to fifty per cent of the amount collected. A careful examination of the terms of the contract was made at my request by the Attorney General, and his conclusions sustained my own opinion, that it was my duty to pay the money into the State Treasury which was accordingly done.

It is claimed by Mr. Kennard that through the aid of an attorney at Washington, and by his own personal attendance there at considerable expense, a prompt adjustment of the claim was originally reached, and that the action of the Treasury Department, by which the amount was finally paid over to the State, was due to his efforts.

With these explanations the subject is submitted for your consideration, in the belief that you will take such action thereon as the case demands.

In the month of September, 1882, I received a United States Treasury draft for $4,193.78, covering the amount appropriated by Congress in the deficiency bill approved August 5th, 1882, to reimburse the State for expenses incurred in suppressing Indian hostilities. A claim for 25 per cent. of said amount, was presented by Patrick O. Hawes as the sum due him for his agency in obtaining said appropriation, and it was claimed by him that he proceeded under a contract made in 1872 with Acting Governor W. H. James. I declined to pay him the per cent. demanded believing, as in the case above stated, that it was my duty to pay the whole amount into the State Treasury, which was done.

CAPITOL BUILDING.

The west wing of the new capitol building which was commenced in 1879 was completed and occupied by the close of 1881. The contract for the construction of the east wing was let in July, 1881 to W. H. B. Stout, in accordance with plans and specifications prepared by W. H. Wilcox, the architect of the west wing. The eastern extension was substantially completed by the 1st of November, 1882, and was formally accepted by the Board of Public Lands and Buildings on the first day of December 1882. The total cost of the two wings was a little less than $175,000, and when completed according to the original design, the capitol building, in its architectural features, commodious halls and superior office accommodations, will compare favorably with far more expensive structures.

HOME FOR THE FRIENDLESS.

The Legislature of 1881 provided for the erection of a Home for the Friendless, and made an appropriation for that purpose, subject to the conditions specified in the act, in compliance with which the institution has been located in Lincoln. The Board of Public Lands and Buildings purchased two and 83-100 acres of land in the southern part of the city, as a location for the Home, for the sum of $2,100. A contract for the erection of the building was let on the 24th of August, 1882, for the sum of $3,599.77. The amount in excess of the appropriation, expended in purchasing the land and erecting the building, has been assumed by the Society of the Home for the Friendless, and the Institution has been formally turned over to that organization.

IMMIGRATION.

The State officers are continually receiving letters of inquiry from the Eastern States and from Europe, asking for information

in regard to the advantages and resources of Nebraska. Many of these letters are from representative men whose influence would direct large numbers of immigrants to this State. Capitalists are also making inquiries with a view to engaging in stock raising or in some manufacturing industry. Large numbers desire correct knowledge concerning the facilities afforded for obtaining home steads and cheap lands. It is impossible to answer these numerous letters fully and satisfactorily in detail, and I therefore recommend that a small appropriation be made for the purpose of preparing and publishing immigration documents under the immediate supervision of the State officers, giving full and reliable information concerning our varied resources. A small outlay in this manner would, in my opinion, be a very profitable investment.

INSURANCE.

The sum of $8,000 was appropriated by the Legislature of 1881, for insurance of public buildings. A statement showing the manner in which the appropriation has been expended, excepting the small balance which remains in the treasury, is submitted in the appendix published herewith. The State has no insurance on the Capitol building. To cover the amount required for this purpose and for necessary additional insurance on other buildings, together with renewals, I recommend that an appropriation of $10,000 be made for the next two years.

REWARD FOR MURDERERS.

The terrible tragedy enacted at Minden in Kearney County on the 16th of last October, and the previous cold blooded murder of a prominent official in the city of Omaha, have forcibly impressed upon my mind the conviction that the Governor should be clothed with additional power for the purpose of securing the apprehen-

sion of desperate criminals. The present insignificant reward authorized by law, should be increased to a proper amount, and the Governor should have discretionary power to offer an additional reward whenever, in his judgment, the ends of justice require him to do so.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES AMONG CATTLE.

I have been formally requested by the State Board of Agriculture, to call your attention to the dangers that are to be apprehended from the spread of pleuro-pneumonia and other contagious diseases among cattle. The subject should be thoroughly investigated and proper regulations instituted to guard against the introduction of these diseases into Nebraska.

METEOROLOGICAL.

My attention has been officially directed by the U. S. Signal Service to the fact that our State had no organized system of obtaining meteorological reports. Observations have been made and embodied in monthly reports by Prof. Thompson of the State University. A very thorough system may be organized at a small expense, for the purpose of obtaining weather reports, and as these observations would be valuable to the people of our own State, I trust that this subject will have your favorable consideration.

It has also been suggested that arrangements should be made for obtaining reliable crop statistics at the proper seasons of the year. A plan could be easily devised for accomplishing both of these objects through a single organization, and I am informed that competent persons are willing to make the necessary observations and gather statistics without expense to the State.

CONCLUSION.

As my official term is now about to close, I recall with pleasure the kindly relations which I have sustained towards those who occupy official positions throughout the State. To the State officers and heads of State Institutions with whom I have been associated during the past four years, I tender my sincere thanks for their earnest co-operation and uniform courtesy.

I also desire to express the gratitude I feel towards the people of Nebraska for the steadfast support which they have given me in my efforts to execute the laws with fidelity.

The steady and vigorous growth of our young Commonwealth during the period that I have occupied the position of Chief Executive has been a source of continual satisfaction, and I ardently cherish the hope that the future of Nebraska may be one of uninterrupted prosperity.

ALBINUS NANCE.

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, Lincoln, Jan. 2, 1883.

PARDON REPORT.

The pardoning power vested in the Executive by the Constitution has been exercised in one instance during the two years ending Dec. 31st, 1882, as follows:

ADOLF SCHENIER,

convicted of grand larceny on the 15th of March, 1881, in the district court for Lancaster county, and sentenced to serve a term of one year's imprisonment in the Penitentiary, was pardoned on the 31st of October, 1881. Clemency in this case was based upon the certificate of the Prison Physician, stating that Adolf Schenier was insane, and upon a similar certificate from the Warden of the Penitentiary, accompanied by a petition signed by a number of the most substantial citizens of Lincoln, asking that he be released.

REGISTER OF CONVICTS

Discharged from December 1, 1880 to November 30, 1881.

NAMES.	Age.	County.	Crime.	Sentence.	When Committed.	When Discharged.	Authority.
Able, F. G.	24	Sarpy	Burglary	1 ...	Oct. 1, 1880	Oct. 1, 1781	Expiration of sentence.
Anderson, Mag	21	Douglas	Rape	3 ...	Mch. 4, 1878	Mch. 3, 1881	" "
Barnell, C.	21	Cedar	Burglary	1 ...	June 25, 1880	Apr. 25, 1881	Good time act.
Barton, D. B.	27	Lancaster	"	2 ...	June 4, 1879	Aug. 5, 1881	Esc. S'vd 2m. 5d time.
Beckman, H.	27	Gage	"	1 ...	May 3, 1880	Mch. 3, 1881	Good time act.
Blyer, W.	24	Lincoln	Horse stealing	3 ...	April 5, 1878	Apr. 5, 1881	Expiration of sentence.
Bogue, A.	43	Clay	Burglary	3 ...	Nov. 26, 1878	Apr. 26, 1881	Good time act.
Brown, Lou.	24	Douglas	Rape	3 ...	Mch. 4, 1878	Dec. 4, 1880	" "
Butler, J.	42	"	"	5 ...	Oct. 26, 1877	Oct. 1, 1881	" "
Clark, C.	29	Lancaster	Burglary	3 ...	Nov. 4, 1878	Apr. 4, 1881	" "
Clark, F.	39	Kearney	Horse stealing	3 ...	Nov. 7, 1878	Apr. 7, 1881	Expiration of sentence.
Clark, J. B.	29	Nuckolls	Grand larceny	4 ...	Sept. 6, 1877	Sept. 7, 1881	" " "
Colony, F.	29	Cheyenne	" "	1 ...	Nov. 6, 1880	Sept. 6, 1881	Good time act.
Condry, F.	27	Lancaster	Burglary	2 ...	Nov. 4, 1878	Apr. 4, 1881	" "
Cooper, J.	25	Platte	Horse stealing	3 ...	Apr. 30, 1879	Sept. 16, 1881	" "
Davis, H.	27	Lancaster	Utter'g f'g'd ch'k	1 ..	Mch. 19, 1881	Sept. 12, 1881	Died of consumption.
Devaule, W.	21	"	Stealing a draft	1 ...	Oct. 28, 1880	Aug. 28, 1881	Good time act.
Dockstader, F.	21	Cedar	Burglary	1 ...	June 25, 1880	June 25, 1881	Expiration of sentence.
Dunn, R. A.	29	Douglas	Grand larceny	2 ...	Nov. 7, 1879	Oct. 8, 1881	Good time act.
Euster, E.	26	Franklin	Rec'g stolen go'ds	3 ...	June 13, 1879	Oct. 28, 1880	Order Sup.C't. New tr'l
Fisher, F.	24	Custer	Murder	li fe	Apr. 25, 1879	Dec. 14, 1880	" " "
Fulton, H.	45	Lancaster	Obt.mon.und.f.p.	3 ...	May 17, 1879	Aug. 17, 1881	Good time act.
Gallagher, J.	31	Lincoln	Horse stealing	3 ...	Oct. 18, 1878	Mch. 18, 1881	" "
Garrison, W. H.	35	Fillmore	Rape	5 ...	Dec. 26, 1877	Sept. 26, 1881	" "
Grinnel, A. J.	22	Cass	Forgery	1 ...	Nov. 20, 1880	Sept. 20, 1881	" "
Halpine, M.	35	Richards'n	Grand larceny	3 ...	Mch. 28, 1879	Aug. 27, 1881	" "
Hanna, T. B.	35	Buffalo	Horse stealing	3 ...	Nov. 15, 1878	Apr. 15, 1881	" "
Hardesty, J. B.	40	Lancaster	Rec'g st'ln prop'y	1 6	Jan. 6, 1879	Dec. 6, 1880	Expiration of sentence.
Harryman, C. B.	32	Douglas	Horse stealing	3 ...	Feb. 22, 1879	Nov. 7, 1881	Good time act.
Huggerty, E.	21	Cass	Grand larceny	1 ...	May 5, 1880	Mch. 5, 1881	" "
Hull, O.	23	Saline	" "	2 ...	Apr. 29, 1879	Dec. 29, 1880	" "
Jansen, N.	26	Douglas	" "	2 ...	Nov. 11, 1879	Nov. 11, 1881	Expiration of sentence.
Karlock, J.	23	Saunders	Burglary	1 ...	Nov. 29, 1880	Nov. 8, 1881	Good time act.
Kastle, X.	41	Douglas	Grand larceny	1 6	Nov. 11, 1879	Feb. 11, 1881	" "
Katen, J.	19	Richards'n	Manslaughter	1 ...	Mch. 29, 1880	Jan. 22, 1881	" "
Kesterson, L. R.	36	Otoe	Burglary	2 ...	Dec. 18, 1879	Nov. 14, 1881	" "
McDonald, W.	36	Douglas	Robbery	5 ...	Nov. 2, 1876	Mch. 20, 1881	" "
Massy, F.	35	Lincoln	Horse stealing	4 ...	Oct. 18, 1878	Nov. 18, 1881	" "
Mast, C.	27	Lancaster	Shooting	3 ...	Nov. 4, 1878	Apr. 4, 1881	" "
Metzler, G.	41	Otoe	Sell'g mort. prop.	1 ...	Apr. 27, 1880	Feb. 27, 1881	" "
Miller, I.	22	Richards'n	Horse stealing	3 ...	Sept. 14, 1878	June 14, 1881	" "
Miller, J.	20	Cass	" "	3 ...	May 8, 1878	Mch. 9, 1881	Expiration of sentence.
Nuhliceck, P. F.	22	Colfax	Forgery	1 6	April 1, 1880	July 19, 1881	Good time act.
Okunskie, J.	36	Douglas	Burglary	3 ...	Mch. 4, 1878	Mch. 4, 1881	Expiration of sentence.
Olive, J. P.	44	Custer	Murder	li fe	Apr. 25, 1879	Dec. 14, 1880	Order Sup.C't. New tr'l.
Patten, H.	37	Otoe	Burglary	2 4	Dec. 18, 1879	Nov. 18, 1881	Good time act.
Pendigrass, T.	40	Douglas	"	3 ...	Mch. 6, 1879	Aug. 6, 1881	" "
Phillips, J.	33	Clay	"	3 ...	Nov. 26, 1878	Apr. 26, 1881	" "
Rally, W.	49	Hall	Grand larceny	1 ...	Mch. 9, 1880	Jan. 3, 1881	" "
Rau, F. H.	50	Richards'n	Embezzlement	1 ...	Mch. 29, 1880	Jan. 24, 1881	" "
Rawson, O.	22	Sarpy	Grand larceny	5 ...	Mch. 24, 1877	July 4, 1881	" "
Reuble, R.	33	Cheyenne	Grand larceny	5 ...	Oct. 5, 1877	July 5, 1881	" "
Rich'rds'n, C. M.	37	Keith	Horse stealing	3 ...	Oct. 12, 1878	Aug. 27, 1881	" "
Roy, P.	26	Douglas	Burglary	2 ...	Nov. 7, 1879	July 7, 1881	" "
Schenier, A.	23	Lancaster	Grand larceny	1 ...	Mch. 24, 1881	Nov. 1, 1881	Pard. by Gov. A. Nance
Shields, J.	24	Washingt'n	" "	3 ...	Dec. 11, 1877	Dec. 11, 1880	Expiration of sentence.
Smith, A.	24	Douglas	Burglary	2 ...	Nov. 7, 1879	Sept. 24, 1881	Good time act.
Smith, H. B.	25	Sarpy	Grand larceny	3 ...	Mch. 25, 1879	Aug. 25, 1881	" "
Spinney, G.	41	York	Horse stealing	3 ...	Dec. 12, 1878	May 12, 1881	" "
Stuchen, J. W.	28	Richards'n	Grand larceny	1 ...	Sept. 21, 1880	July 21, 1881	" "
Tanner, E.	27	Cuming	Burglary	1 ...	May 11, 1880	Apr. 25, 1881	" "
Tickey, P.	54	Colfax	"	3 ...	May 2, 1878	Feb. 15, 1881	" "
Walters, J.	25	Keith	"	1 ...	June 14, 1880	June 14, 1881	Expiration of sentence.
Waukmill'r, CA	26	Dodge	Forgery	2 ...	Jan. 19, 1880	Sept. 13, 1881	Good time act.
Wells, T J.	34	Fillmore	Horse stealing	6 ...	Nov. 29, 1880	June 14, 1881	Order Sup.C't, New tr'l
Wiloby, T. W.	44	Hall	Grand larceny	4 ...	Sept. 7, 1877	Mch. 15, 1881	Good time act.
Wilson, J.	34	Cass	" "	1 ...	Nov. 20, 1880	Sept. 20, 1881	" "
Wilson, P.	26	Cheyenne	" "	5 ...	Oct. 5, 1877	July 5, 1881	" "
Woodruff, G.	19	"	Burglary	1 ...	Apr. 13, 1880	Feb. 13, 1881	" "
Yenglin, J.	27	Butler	Grand larceny	4 ...	Dec. 10, 1877	Oct. 12, 1881	" "

RECAPITULATION.	No.
Convicts pardoned by Governor Albinus Nance	1
" discharged by order of Supreme Court for new trial	4
" died in prison	1
" who have availed themselves of the full benefits of the Good Time act	30
" who have partially benefitted by the provisions of the Good Time act	21
" who have been deprived of the benefit of the Good Time act	13
" escaped	3
Total discharged from December 1, 1880, to November 30, 1881	73

REGISTER OF CONVICTS

Discharged from Dec. 1, 1881 to Nov. 30, 1882.

NAMES.	Age.	County.	Crime.	Sen. Y	Sen. M	When Committed.	When Discharged.	Authority.
Algire, L.	39	Buffalo	Embezzlement	1	...	June 13, 1881	April 13, 1882	Good time act.
Bacon, O.	24	Hamilton	Seduction	2	...	Feb. 4, 1881	Oct. 4, 1882	" "
Barker, C.	27	Buffalo	Burglary	1	...	June 13, 1881	April 13, 1882	" "
Barlow, G.	24	Douglas	Horse stealing	3	...	Nov. 11, 1879	Nov. 11, 1882	Expiratiou of sentence.
Barton, R.	31	Lancaster	" "	3	...	June 19, 1880	Jan. 14, 1882	Ord. Sup. C'rt new trial
Baumgart, F.	30	"	Grand Larceny	1	...	Oct. 26, 1881	Aug. 26, 1882	Good time act.
Bunnell, C. A.	23	Saunders	Horse stealing	3	...	April 23, 1880	Sept. 22, 1882	" "
Celley, N.	31	Clay	Burglary	1	...	May 31, 1881	Mar. 31, 1882	" "
Chester, F	26	Douglas	"	4	...	June 30, 1879	July 30, 1882	" "
Cox, T.	23	Gage	Horse stealing	3	...	Nov. 3, 1879	July 25, 1882	" "
Crossman, H.	25	Douglas	Grand larceny	3	..	July 8, 1879	Dec. 8, 1881	" "
Daniels, D. N.	27	Merrick	Felonious assault	2	...	Oct. 19, 1880	June 15, 1882	" "
Deidrich, J.	36	Knox	Burglary	1	...	Oct. 25, 1881	Aug. 25, 1882	" "
Dodd, G. H.	24	Gage	Horse stealing	3	...	Nov. 3, 1879	July 12, 1882	" "
Duffer, E.	19	Douglas	Shoot'g int. to kill	5	...	Oct. 26, 1877	April 10, 1882	" "
Elshire, E. J.	27	Buffalo	Grand larceny	3	...	Nov. 24, 1879	April 24, 1882	" "
Fifer, H. C.	31	Otoe	Burglary	1	...	April 25, 1881	April 1, 1882	" "
Folden, C. H.	26	Fillmore	Forgery	1	...	June 13, 1881	April 13, 1882	" "
Fortune, R.	27	Lancaster	Grand larceny	1	...	Oct. 31, 1881	Aug. 31, 1882	" "
Fuller, D. W.	34	"	Arson	1	...	Mar. 24, 1881	Jan. 24, 1882	" "
Gaylord, H.	26	Keith	Burglary	2	..	June 14, 1880	Feb. 14, 1882	" "
Gehle, Henritta	31	Wayne	Murder	5	...	April 5, 1878	Feb. 20, 1882	" "
Getcher, H.	20	Douglas	Grand larceny	2	...	July 6, 1880	June 5, 1882	" "
Gleason, E.	29	Lancaster	Robbery	3	...	June 19, 1880	Nov. 19, 1882	" "
Hamer, G A.	55	Washingt'n	Forgery	1	...	May 31, 1881	Mar. 31, 1882	" "
Harper, J.	22	Pawnee	Grand larceny	1	3	Sept. 26, 1881	Oct. 11, 1882	" "
Haskins, E. E.	27	Buffalo	Grand larceny	3	...	Nov. 24, 1879	April 24, 1882	" "
Holder, W.	30	Nemaha	Bigamy	2	6	Sept. 20, 1880	Oct. 5, 1882	" "
Howard, C. H.	43	Douglas	Obt. mon. und. f. p.	4	...	Mar. 6, 1879	April 6, 1882	" "
Johnson, W.	24	Cass	Horse stealing	3	...	Dec. 1, 1879	May 1, 1882	" "
Judiker, H.	24	Nuckolls	Steal'g money, etc	2	...	Nov. 17, 1880	July 17, 1882	" "
Land, S. J.	46	Hall	Forgery	4	...	Sept. 8, 1879	Oct. 3, 1882	" "
Lander, P.	24	Cuming	Horse stealing	3	...	July 17, 1879	Mar. 13, 1882	" "
Leavenworth, G	26	Cheyenne	Grand larceny	5	...	Oct. 5, 1877	Mar. 12, 1882	" "
Lee, H.	29	Douglas	Burglary	5	...	June 26, 1878	Aug. 30, 1882	" "
Marlow, J. R.	29	Howard	Forgery	1	...	April 23, 1881	Mar. 25, 1882	" "
Mathewson, C.	20	Butler	Horse stealing	3	...	June 24, 1879	May 12, 1882	" "
Minard, W.	19	Lancaster	ad. poi. to t'ke life	2	...	June 19, 1880	April 11, 1882	" "
Morris, N. W.	25	Webster	Burglary	2	...	Mar, 26, 1880	Jan. 26, 1882	" "
Noyes, E.	30	Cass	Forgery	1	...	May 9, 1881	Mar. 9, 1882	" "
O'Brien, F.	22	Lincoln	Grand larceny	1	...	Oct, 5, 1881	Aug. 5, 1882	" "
Parker, G.	41	"	Forgery	1	...	Mar. 7, 1881	Feb. 20, 1882	" "
Piederson, H. C	37	Otoe	Pass. forg'd ch'k.	1	...	Dec. 18, 1879	May 18, 1882	" "
Ray, A.	31	Washingt'n	Forgery	2	...	Dec. 1, 1880	Sept. 20, 1882	" "

REGISTER OF CONVICTS—*Continued.*

Discharged from Dec. 1, 1881 to Nov. 30, 1882.

NAMES.	Age.	County.	Crime.	Sen. Y	Sen. M	When Committed.	When Discharged	Authority.
Ray, J.	34	Fillmore	conc'l'g horse th'f	6	...	Nov. 29, 1880	April 8, 1882	Ord. Sup. C'rt new trial
Reeder, R.	23	Buffalo	Ass'lt int. to kill.	5	...	Nov. 15, 1878	Oct. 17, 1882	Good time act.
Rosey, C.	24	Douglas	Grand larceny	2	...	Mar. 21, 1881	Nov. 21, 1882	" "
Rossman, J. W.	32	Richardson	" "	7	...	Dec. 5, 1876	Jan. 5, 1882	" "
Schimpf, C. W.	24	Dodge	Sell'g mort. prop.	...	9	April 19, 1881	Dec, 12, 1881	" "
Schimpf, H. A.	26	"	" "	1	...	April 19, 1881	Feb. 12, 1882	" "
Saint Peters, J.	23	Buffalo	Burglary	1	...	June 13, 1881	April 13, 1882	" "
Sheridan, P.	40	Thayer	Ass'lt int. wound	1	...	Nov. 10, 1881	Sept. 10, 1882	" "
Sherbert, C.	49	Cedar	Manslaughter	5	...	May 24, 1878	Aug. 23, 1882	" "
Slover, J.	30	Fillmore	Rape	5	...	June 11, 1878	Mar. 11, 1882	" "
Smith, F.	21	Dodge	Grand larceny	2	...	Nov. 22, 1880	July 22, 1882	" "
Toppin, W. R.	55	Seward	Horse stealing	4	...	May 5, 1879	June 3, 1882	" "
Tyrrell, W.	24	Dawson	Burglary	2	...	Dec. 14, 1880	Aug. 14, 1882	" "
Walbridge, H. R.	48	Burt	Robbery	3	...	May 7, 1880	Oct. 7, 1882	" "
Walleck, G. E.	23	Douglas	Grand larceny	1	6	July 6, 1880	Dec. 14, 1881	" "
Watkins, J.	32	"	Cutting	3	...	July 8, 1879	Mar. 3, 1882	" "
Wild, F.	23	Richardson	Grand larceny	2	...	Sept. 21, 1880	May 21, 1882	" "
Winson, W. H.	25	Douglas	Burglary	2	6	Nov. 7, 1879	Mar. 31, 1882	" "

RECAPITULATION.	No.
Convicts discharged by order of Supreme Court for new trial	2
" who have availed themselves of the full benefit of the good time act	31
" who have partly benefitted by the provisions of the good time act	28
" who have been deprived of the benefit of the good time act—discharged at expiration of sentence	1
Total discharged from Dec. 1, 1881 to Nov. 30, 1882	62

STATEMENT

Showing the assessed valuation and bonded indebtedness of the several counties of the state; also school district bonded indebtedness, etc.

COUNTIES.	Assessed Valuation.	Bonded Indebtedness.	Am'nt of warrants outstanding.	School district bonded indebtedness.	Total co. & school district bon'd indebtedness	Rate of levy for county purposes	Miles of railroad.
Adams	$ 1891926 53	$.....	$90000 00	$ 80000 00	$170000 00	2.1	56.47
Antelope	768081 67	8000 00	16510.53	6740 00	31250 00	2.2	33.47
Boone	655039 60	89500 00	15000 00	7000 00	111500 00	3.5	15.00
Buffalo	1768571 77	121500 00	18394 50	28340 00	168234.50	2.3	42.00
Butler	2244038 28	119000 00	.....	12310 00	131310 00	1.4	60.12
Burt	1825072 46	105000 00	.....	13600 00	118600 00	1.5	35.06
Cass	3617495 60	100000 00	14000 00	34571 00	148571 00	1.8	55.05
Cedar	1011839 00	.....	.....	500 00	500 00	1.5	.....
Cheyenne	1675638 00	20000 00	9034 59	.....	29034 59	.9	98.00
Clay	2150973 15	.....	4000 00	24397 00	28897 00	1.3	48.36
Colfax	1492968 00	126500 00	.....	8400 00	134900 00	2.1	18.
Cuming	1444650 91	103000 00	5487 00	7671 00	116158 00	2.	28.77
Custer	226201 00	.....	4000 00	70 00	4070 00	1.	.....
Dakota	834563 10	144000 00	15000 00	1400 00	160400 00	2.9	38.10
Dawson	768074 00	98000 00	.....	6500 00	104500 00	2.8	44.
*Dixon	963247 93	87000 00	9608 00	3615 00	100223 00	.....	.....
Dodge	2368620 96	170000 00	.....	5000 00	175000 50	1.9	61.36
Douglas	9356559 97	575000 00	.....	4147 50	579147 50	2.3	55.47
Fillmore	1915785 95	.....	6500 00	11000 00	17500 00	1.3	24.05
Franklin	566542 00	48000 00	37126 00	5454 00	90580 00	4.5	24.56
Frontier	157672 00	.....	883 74	.....	1000 00	1.1	.....
Furnas	802559 50	.....	* 5000 00	1656 00	6656 00	1.2	30.85
Gage	3101663 73	100000 00	.....	13413 00	113413 00	1.5	97.81
Gosper	111930 00	.....	6320 00	.....	6320 00	9.	.....
Greeley	292242 00	29000 00	12000 00	4800 00	45800 00	2.2	10.
Hall	2275876 80	105000 00	.....	23800 00	128800 00	1.5	50.37
Hamilton	1543340 00	115000 00	.....	7000 00	122000 00	1.7½	26.86
Harlan	590959 50	.....	36939 79	2564 00	39402 79	1.5	28.49
Hitchcock	341544 50	4000 00	4000 00	3000 00	13000 00	1.2½	.....
Holt	1295566 58	.....	11268 05	800 00	12068 05	1.4	82.28
Howard	718617 60	95000 00	5000 00	15000 00	125000 00	2.8	32.
Jefferson	1589011 52	.....	9678 18	16333 00	26011 18	1.4	53.90
Johnson	1538162 64	91800 00	10617 38	3675 00	106092 38	2.7	25.81
Kearney	823900 12	79000 00	7204 00	2195 00	88399 00	2.1	14.68
Keith	715062 00	.....	2500 00	.....	2500 00	.5	41.
Knox	679476 89	.....	7000 00	15000 00	8500 00	1.7	2.49
Lancaster	5196611 22	518000 00	6835 78	61745 00	586580 78	2.5	113.59
Lincoln	1408851 00	41000 00	5849 00	.....	46889 00	.9	58.
Madison	1195747 55	5200 00	12000 00	10090 00	27290 00	1.4	55.
Merrick	1494069 80	46000 00	2000 00	6000 00	54000 00	1.2	46.86
Nance	275905 20	.....	2000 00	2790 00	4790 00	1.5	8.93
Nemaha	2193835 94	40000 00	5082 92	8428 00	53510 92	1.8	47.85
Nuckolls	1337061 98	.....	1200 00	5050 00	6250 00	1.3	25.90
Otoe	3913365 46	385000 00	25000 00	12730 00	422730 00	2.5	71.61
Pawnee	1815873 38	75000 00	3500 00	18780 00	97280 00	1.9	37.05
†Phelps	354914 00	.....	35000 00	.....	35000 00	4.1	.....
Pierce	754860 57	.....	.....	500 00	500 00	1.2	28.37
Platte	2204317 88	167000 00	24358 79	14817 00	206175 79	2.2	95.25
†Polk	1423306 00	70000 00	.....	.....	70000 00	2.1	16.
Red Willow	350139 50	12500 00	2195 00	1700 00	16395 00	1.9	30.84
*Richardson	2975081 40	150000 00	20000 00	5000 00	175000 00	2.	63.85
Saline	2197336 16	.....	.....	30479 00	30479 00	1.4	42.24
Sarpy	1358071 26	2800 00	.....	5000 00	7800 00	1.4¼	39.64
Saunders	2205408 64	184000 00	.....	15000 00	199000 00	2.3	45.65
Seward	2188075 20	100000 00	10033 00	15580 00	150613 00	1.8	53.92
Sherman	500264 00	.....	10000 00	.....	10000 00	1.4	.....
Stanton	730682 48	40000 00	.....	.....	40000 00	1.5	20.86
Sioux, unor. terr'y	415960 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	24.00
Thayer	1570036 60	.....	.....	14438 00	14438 00	1.4	44.55
Valley	453528 00	44500 00	4000 00	9200 00	57700 00	2.2	1.50
Washington	1734575 55	225000 00	.....	.....	225000 00	2.5	44.55
Wayne	868186 96	15000 00	.....	300 00	15300 00	2.1½	27.51
Wheeler	104308 00	.....	697 59	.....	1760 29	1.2	.....
Webster	1059232 40	62500 00	15947 00	23877 00	102324 00	2.6	43.79
York	2134393 62	112500 00	16885 00	15092 00	144477 00	2.27 30	24.48
Total	$ 98537475 11	4729300 00	568655 84	646542 50	5969621 27		2305.87

*Valuation for 1882. Other returns copied from report of 1880.
†Records destroyed by fire and return is incomplete.

INSURANCE.

The following is a statement of the insurance policies now in force covering public property and buildings belonging to the State.

DATE.	BUILDINGS.	COMPANY.	AMOUNT.	PREMIUM.	POLICY EXPIRES.
March 8, 1881...	University.....	Phoenix.....	$ 5000 00	$ 125 00	March 8, 1884
" 8, 1881...	"	Queen.....	5000 00	125 00	" 8, 1884
" 8, 1881...	"	Hartford.....	5000 00	125 00	" 8, 1884
" 8, 1881...	"	Home.....	5000 00	125 00	" 8, 1884
" 8, 1881...	"	Continental.....	5000 00	125 00	" 8, 1884
" 12, 1881...	"	Ætna.....	5000 00	125 00	" 12, 1884
July...16, 1882...	"	Continental.....	5000 00	125 00	July....16, 1885
March 26, 1881...	Penitentiary	Union (Cal)	5000 00	300 00	March 26, 1884
" 26, 1881...	"	Firemen's Fund....	5000 00	300 00	" 26, 1884
" 26, 1881...	"	German.....	5000 00	300 00	" 26, 1884
April...4, 1881...	"	Pennsylvania..	5000 00	300 00	April... 4, 1884
" ...6, 1881...	"	German-American.	5000 00	300 00	" ... 6, 1884
May...27, 1881...	"	North America	5000 00	300 00	May....27, 1884
March 9, 1881...	Hospital for Insane.....	Underwriters.....	10000 00	400 00	March 9, 1884
" 12, 1881...	" "	Home (N. Y.).....	5000 00	200 00	" 12, 1884
" 12, 1881...	" "	Hartford.....	5000 00	200 00	" 12, 1884
" 12, 1881...	" "	North America	10000 00	400 00	" 12, 1884
" 12, 1881...	" "	Pennsylvania.....	5000 00	200 00	" 12, 1884
" 15, 1881...	" "	Ætna.....	5000 00	200 00	" 12, 1884
" 24, 1881...	" "	German.....	5000 00	200 00	" 24, 1884
" 26, 1881...	" "	German-American.	5000 00	200 00	" 26, 1884
" 26, 1881...	" "	Uuion (Cal).....	10000 00	400 00	" 26, 1884
" 26, 1881...	" "	Firemen's Fund.....	10000 00	400 00	" 26, 1884
May...12, 1881...	" "	German.....	5000 00	200 00	May... 12, 1884
" ...19, 1881...	" "	German-American.	5000 00	200 00	" 19, 1884
April...4, 1882...	Asylum for the Blind.....	Phoenix.....	8000 00	240 00	Ap,il... 4, 1885
Jan.... 2, 1883...	Deaf and Dumb Inst.....	Aetna.....	2000 00	50 00	Jan 2, 1886
" .... 4, 1883...	" "	Home.....	3000 00	90 00	" 4, 1886
" .... 4, 1883...	" "	Lancashire.....	2000 00	50 00	" 4, 1886
" .... 4, 1883...	" "	Franklin.....	3000 00	90 00	" 4, 1886
" .... 4, 1883...	" "	Underwriters.....	4000 00	100 00	" ... 4, 1886
March 15, 1881...	Normal School.....	North American....	5000 00	125 00	March 15, 1884
" 20, 1882...	"	Franklin	2500 00	75 00	" 20, 1885
" 20, 1882...	"	Underwriters.....	5000 00	150 00	" 20, 1885
" 20, 1882...	"	Westchester	2500 00	75 00	" 20, 1885
" 9, 1881...	"	Underwriters.....	10000 00	300 00	" 9, 1884
July... 8, 1881...	Reform School	Home.....	3000 00	112 50	July... 8, 1884
" ... 9, 1881...	"	L. L. and Globe.....	3000 00	112 50	" 9, 1884
May... 5, 1882...	Agricultural Farm Bldgs	Niagara.....	2750 00	41 25	May..... 5, 1885

John P. Orr & Co.
Liverpool & London & Globe
North British & Mercantile
Fire Association of Phila
Republic Fire Ins. Co.
New Orleans Ins. Co.
Traders of Chicago
Ins. Co. of North America
Orient of Hartford

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES,

For Executive Office for two years ending November 30, 1882.

To whom and for what purpose appropriated.	Appropriations to March 31, 1883.			Warrants drawn.	Amounts unexpended.
	To March 31, 1882.	To March 31, 1883.	Total.		
Salary of Governor	$2500 00	$2500 00	$5000 00	$3750 00	$1250 00
Salary Private Secretary	1500 00	1500 00	3000 00	2250 00	750 00
Books, blanks and printing	250 00	250 00	500 00	397 85	102 15
Postage and postal expenses	200 00	200 00	400 00	218 60	181 40
Stationery	250 00	250 00	500 00	134 65	365 35
Telegraph and express	200 00	200 00	400 00	300 92	99 08
Sundry office expenses	50 00	50 00	100 00	68 68	31 32

STATEMENT

Of moneys received from the General Government and paid into the State Treasury during the two years ending December 31, 1882.

Sept. 23, 1881, five per cent. on sales of government lands	$ 585 81
Sept. 13, 1882, reimbursing State for expenses incurred suppressing Indian hostilities	4193 78
Sept. 25, 1882, five per cent. on sale of government lands	3082 28
Oct. 27, 1882, five per cent. on sale of lands in Pawnee Indian Reservation	6275 47
Total	$14247 34

Frank L. Sheldon. Nat. Bk

German American
Continental
Commercial Union
Phoenix of London
Fireman's Fund
Union of Cal.
North Western Nat'l of Milwaukee
German of Fleetwood

Railroads in Operation in the State.

NAMES OF RAILROADS.	Number of Miles.	Assessed Valuation.	
		Per Mile.	Total.
Union Pacific	455.70	$ 11552 00	$ 5264246 40
Burlington and Missouri River in Nebraska	191.86	10649 00	2043117 14
Omaha and Southwestern	49.25	10649 00	524463 25
Atchison and Nebraska	105.38	4953 00	521947 14
Lincoln and Northwestern	73.05	4953 00	361816 65
St. Joseph and Western	113.20	3391 00	383861 20
Nebraska	135.68	4374 00	593464 32
Sioux City and Pacific	26.95	3492 00	94109 40
Fremont, Elkhorn and Missouri Valley	146.06	3492 00	510041 51
St. Paul and Sioux City	142.29	3369 00	479375 01
Omaha and Republican Valley	157.20	3364 00	528820 80
Republican Valley	266.99	4221 00	1126964 79
Omaha, Niobrara and Black Hills	81.35	3054 00	248442 90
Total	1944.96		$12680670 52

Railroads Constructed in the State

During the years 1881 and 1882.

	No. of Miles.
Chicago, St. Paul and Minneapolis	46.40
Missouri Pacific	100.00
O. and R. V. Branch of U. P. Ry	27.00
B. and M. R. R.	227.30
Sioux City and Pacific	164.21
	564.91

STATEMENT No. IV.

Showing the appropriations needed for the operating expenses of the government from the 31st day of March, 1883 to the 31st day of March, 1885, as estimated by the heads of the several departments, and by the Auditor of Public Accounts, when not otherwise estimated.

For what purpose required.	Rate per annum.	Amount.	Total.
LEGISLATIVE EXPENSES.			
Salaries of officers, members and employes		$ 45000 00	
Incidental expenses		30000 00	$ 75000 00
GOVERNOR.			
Salary	$2500 00	$ 5000 00	
Salary of private Secretary	1500 00	3000 00	
Postage and postal expenses	200 00	409 00	
Books, blanks and printing	250 00	500 00	
Stationery	200 00	400 00	
Telegraph, telephone and express	200 00	400 00	
Furniture and repairs	100 00	200 00	
Sundry office expenses	50 00	100 00	10000 00
SECRETARY OF STATE.			
Salary	2000 00	4000 00	
Salary of Deputy	1500 00	3000 00	
Salary of Book-keeker	1200 00	2400 00	
Salary of Adjutant General	500 00	1000 00	10400 00
Postage	275 00	550 00	
Lithographing	100 00	200 00	
Stationery, books, printing, including rebinding and indexing old manuscript laws	400 00	800 00	
Express, freight, telegraph and telephone expenses	75 00	160 00	
Plastering and cementing basement vault		50 00	
Preparing session laws for public printer, copying, indexing, annotating and expenses in proof reading		300 00	
Expenses for shipment of laws and journals to counties and members of the Legislature, 18th session, 1883		60 00	
Sundry office expenses	50 00	100 00	2210 00
Books, blanks, stationery and postal expenses for Adjutant General's office		300 00	
Express, freight, telegraph and telephone expenses for Adjutant General's office	75 00	150 00	
Storage of arms and ammunition for Adjutant General's office	50 00	100 00	550 00
Support of the Nebraska National Guard, under the provisions of the military code	2500 00	5000 00	5000 00
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.			
Salary	2500 00	5000 00	
Salary of Deputy	1750 00	3500 00	
Salary of Book-keeper	1450 00	2900 00	
Salary of Insurance Clerk	1200 00	2400 00	
Stationery	200 00	400 00	
Books, blanks and printing	200 00	400 00	
Postage and postal expenses	300 00	600 00	
Express, telegraph and telephone	75 00	150 00	
Sundry office expenses	50 00	100 00	15450 00
TREASURER.			
Salary	2500 00	5000 00	
Salary of Deputy	1500 00	3000 00	
Stationery and blanks	75 00	150 00	
Postage, express, telegraph and exchange	125 00	250 00	
New books		100 00	
Furniture, fixtures and repairs		100 00	8600 00

STATEMENT No. IV—*Continued.*

For what purpose required.	Rate per annum.	Amount.	Total.
SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.			
Salary	2000 00	4000 00	
Sending out blanks	100 00	200 00	
Attending teachers' institute	300 00	600 00	
Postage and postal expenses	200 00	400 00	
Express, telephone and boxes	75 00	150 00	
Stationery, printing and office blanks	200 00	400 00	
Letter books and binding documents	75 00	150 00	
Sundry office expenses	50 00	100 00	
Blanks for district reports	1000 00	2000 00	
Publishing Superintendent's report		500 00	
Publishing school reports		1000 00	
Office furniture		200 00	
			9700 00
ATTORNEY GENERAL.			
Salary	2000 00	4000 00	
Stationery and postage	200 00	400 00	
Printing briefs, Supreme Court	200 00	400 00	
Traveling expenses	200 00	400 00	
Sundry office expenses	50 00	100 00	
			5300 00
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC LANDS AND BUILDINGS.			
Salary	2000 00	4000 00	
Salary of Deputy	1500 00	3000 00	
Salary of Chief Clerk	1200 00	2400 00	
Salary of Clerk and Book-keeper	1000 00	2000 00	
Salary of one Clerk	800 00	1600 00	
Furniture		300 00	
Books and stationery		600 00	
Postage and postal expenses		700 00	
Express and telegraph		100 00	
Sundry office expenses		100 00	
Traveling expenses		400 00	
			15200 00
SUPREME COURT.			
Salary of three judges	2500 00	15000 00	
Salary of reporter	1500 00	3000 00	
Stationery	150 00	300 00	
Books and blanks	150 00	300 00	
Postage and telegraph	75 00	150 00	
Furniture for consultation room		150 00	
Court calendars	80 00	160 00	
Bailiffs	600 00	1200 00	
Volumes 15, 16 and 17, Supreme Court Reports		6750 00	
Second edition Volumes 6 and 7 Supreme Court Reports		1250 00	
			28260 00
STATE LIBRARY.			
Salary of Deputy State Librarian	1000 00	2000 00	
Stationery and blanks	50 00	100 00	
Express and freight	250 00	500 00	
Postage and telephone	75 00	150 00	
Binding	100 00	200 00	
Expenses in moving into new rooms in east wing of capitol, additional shelving, labor, etc		300 00	
Sundry office expenses	50 00	100 00	
			3350 00
DISTRICT COURT.			
Salary of six judges	2500 00	30000 00	
Salary of six attorneys	1500 00	18000 00	
Salary of six stenographic reporters	1500 00	18000 00	
			66000 00
PENITENTIARY.			
Keeping, care and custody of 230 prisoners, April 1st to September 30th, 1883, at 50 cents per day		2104 00	

STATEMENT No. IV—*Continued.*

For what purpose.	Rate per annum.	Amount.	Total.
INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND.			
Living expenses for year to March 31, 1884		5000 00	
Living expenses for year to March 31, 1885, including fuel, wages, of employes, etc		5500 00	
Salaries of officers, teachers and physician	3000 00	6000 00	
Improvement—building and ground		1250 00	
Furniture and bedding	250 00	500 00	
Musical Institute books and apparatus	250 00	500 00	
Clothing for poor	100 00	200 00	
Steam heating apparatus		3000 00	
Gasoline apparatus		700 00	22600 00
HOSPITAL FOR INSANE.			
Board and clothing		54000 00	
Employes' wages		30000 00	
Fuel and lights		12000 00	
Drugs and medicines		4000 00	
Repairs and improvements		4000 00	
Incidentals		4000 00	
Furniture		4000 00	
Paints and oils		1000 00	
Music and musical instruments		1000 00	
Salary of Superintendent	2500 00	5000 00	
Salary of two assistants	2700 00	5400 00	124400 00
FISH COMMISSION.			
Building additional ponds		600 00	
Grading in front of dwelling		350 00	
Iron pipes and fixtures		550 00	
Three hundred and fifty rods of iron fence		950 00	
Ornamental fence around dwelling		200 00	
Barn and fixtures		500 00	
Finishing dwelling house		250 00	
Building stone dam to supply pond		700 00	
Apparatus, aquarium and jars		500 00	
Salary of Superintendent	700 00	1400 00	
Laborer and assistant to Superintendent	500 00	1000 00	
Expenses of Board of Commissioners	500 00	1000 00	
Spawn, fry and incidentals	1500 00	3000 00	11000 00
REFORM SCHOOL.			
Employes' wages, including salary of Superintendent	3500 00	7000 00	
Furniture in case of erection of new building		3000 00	
Farm expenses including three additional teams, harness for same and one farm wagon, together with necessary farm implements, also twelve milch cows, fencing for pastures, etc		4000 00	
Barn and other necessary out-buildings, including shops		5000 00	
Living expenses	4000 00	5000 00	
Material for clothing, bedding boots and shoes, hats, caps, etc	1200 00	8000 00	
Stationery, books and postage	500 00	2400 00	
Fuel	1000 00	600 00	
Lights and lamps	300 00	2000 00	
		600 00	32600 00
MISCELLANEOUS.			
Revenue books and blanks, including claims outstanding			18000 00
Insurance on public buildings			10000 00
Abstracts of entered taxable lands from U. S. land office			1200 00
Fugitives from justice, rewards, sheriffs' fees, etc			18000 00
Sheriffs' fees, juvenile offenders to reform school, including outstanding claims			2500 00
County Treasurer—fees and mileage, collecting State taxes			55000 00
Expenses in prosecuting illegal insurance			500 00
Advertising proposals for State printing			600 00
Printing laws, journals and such other printing as required under contract, including claims outstanding			1000 00
Support of State Board of Agriculture	1000 00		2000 00

STATEMENT No. IV—*Continued.*

For what purpose required.	Rate per annum.	Amount.	Total.
Keeping, care, etc., October 1, 1883, to March 31, 1884, at 45 cents per day		18940 50	
Keeping, care, etc., April 1, 1884, to March 31, 1885, at 45 cents per day		40241 25	
Improvements, repairs, furniture, etc		18000 000	98226 75
STATE UNIVERSITY.			
Salaries and incidentals	25000 00	50000 00	
Use of model farm	5000 00	10000 00	60000 00
INSTITUTE FOR DEAF AND DUMB.			
Living expenses to March 31, 1884		6000 00	
Living expenses to March 31, 1885		7000 00	
Employes' wages	2000 00	4000 00	
Clothing for poor	200 00	400 00	
Feed for animals	500 00	1000 00	
Furniture, beds and bedding	500 00	1000 00	
Fuel	1500 00	3000 00	
Paints, oil, etc	300 00	600 00	
Repairs on buildings	500 00	1000 00	
Improvements on grounds	500 00	1000 00	
Library, school books, apparatus, stationery	500 00	1000 00	
Salary of principal and steward	1500 00	3000 00	
Matron, physician, teachers and foreman	6500 00	13000 00	
Purchase of additional land		9000 00	
New barn		3000 00	
Boiler, coal house and shop room		3000 00	
Furnishing new building		1000 00	
Printing press, supplies for printing office, etc		1500 00	
Ice house		1000 00	
Fuel (prospective shortage this winter)		500 00	
Gas pipe, fixtures, etc., for new building		380 00	61380 00
NORMAL SCHOOL AT PERU.			
Teachers' salaries	10600 00	21200 00	
Fuel and lights	1000 00	2000 00	
Repairs to buildings and grounds	300 00	600 00	
Expenses of Boad of Education and visitors	500 00	1000 00	
Janitor's wages and help	500 00	1000 00	
Apparatus		500 00	
Printing, stationery and postage	375 00	750 00	
Furniture and fixtures	375 00	750 00	
Well, cisterns and wind mill		1000 00	
Incidentals	200 00	400 00	29200 00
BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL LANDS AND FUNDS.			
School land expenses—appraising, selling, books, blanks, etc			6000 00
BOARD OF PUBLIC LANDS AND BUILDINGS.			
Fuel and lights for capitol for two years		8000 00	
Repairs and care of capitol building and grounds		2000 00	
Traveling expenses		400 00	
Stationery, blanks, etc		300 00	
Repairs to public buildings in case of damage by fire, storms, or other cause		5000 00	
Carpets for east wing of capitol		1500 00	
Plastering, flooring and finishing lower vaults, west wing		3000 00	
Engineer for capitol building two years		1800 00	19300 00
CAPITOL.			
Salary of janitor	800 00	1600 00	
Salary of assistant janitor and night watch	700 00	1400 00	3000 00

STATEMENT No. IV—*Continued.*

For what purpose required.	Rate per annum.	Amount.	Toalt.
Support of State Horticultural Society	1000 00		2000 00
State taxes erroneously paid on school lands, (section 37, page 486, compiled statutes)			1000 00
State taxes illegally levied and paid under protest, including claims outstanding, (sections 144 and 145, page 427, compiled statutes)			500 00
Total			$844026 75

SCHEDULE "A."

LIST OF CASES DISPOSED OF IN THE SUPREME COURT.

No. 1.

Joshua Slover
vs
The State of Nebraska.
} Rape, from Fillmore county.

No. 2.

The State of Nebraska
vs
Richardson county.
} To compel the county to extend the tax lists. Settled.

No. 3.

Maurice Fitzgerald
vs.
The State of Nebraska.
} Murder. From Cass county. Affirmed.

No. 4.

Alexander Hickey
vs.
The State of Nebraska.
} Manslaughter. From Otoe county. Affirmed.

No. 5.

John Oleson
vs.
The State of Nebraska.
} Rape. From Lancaster county. Reversed.

No. 6.

Richard Barton
vs.
The State of Nebraska.
} Horse stealing. From Lancaster county. Reversed.

No. 7.

Horace Smith *et al.*
vs.
The State of Nebraska.

Recognizance. Error to Douglas county. Reversed and dismissed.

No. 8.

Thomas Hawe
vs.
The State of Nebraska.

Malicious shooting. From Colfax county. Affirmed.

No. 9.

George W. Mitchell
vs.
The State of Nebraska.

Liquor selling. From York county. Affirmed.

No. 10.

Edward Engster
vs.
The State of Nebraska.

Grand Larceny. From Franklin county. Reversed.

No. 11.

Ex-parte Jesse Crawford.

Application for writ of *habeas corpus*. Writ denied.

No. 12.

Leroy Kesterson
vs.
The State of Nebraska.

Burglar. From Otoe county Dismissed.

No. 13.

William B. Baldwin
vs.
The State of Nebraska.

Murder. From Adams county. Affirmed.

No. 14.

Thomas J. Wells
vs.
The State of Nebraska.

Horse stealing. From Fillmore county

No. 15.

H. R. Wallbridge
vs.
The State of Nebraska.

Robbery. From Burt county. Reversed.

No. 16.

Henry Parish
vs.
The State of Nebraska.

Manslaughter. From Johnson county. Affirmed.

No. 17.

State *ex rel.* Guy A. Brown
vs.
John Wallichs, Auditor.

Application for a writ of *mandamus*. Writ allowed.

No. 18.

Andrew Pluler
vs.
The State of Nebraska.

Liquor selling. From Douglas county. Affirmed.

No. 19.

State *ex rel.* J. R. Van Demark
vs.
Isaac Stephens *et al.*

Quo Warranto. Under advisement.

No. 20.

State of Nebraska
vs.
Jacob Page.

Murder. From Cheyenne Co. Demurrer to Plea in Abatement overruled in District Court. Case brought to Supreme Court by District Attorney Bierbower. Ruling below affirmed.

No. 21.

State of Nebraska
vs.
Daniel Lybick.

Liquor selling, from Richardson county, brought the Supreme Court by District Attorney Morris. Ruling of the Court below reversed.

No. 22.

State, *ex rel.* Gran Ensign
vs.
John Wallichs, Auditor.

Application for a writ of *mandamus*. Writ denied.

No. 23.

State, *ex rel.* W. W. Jones
vs.
John Wallichs, Auditor.

Application for writ of *mandamus*. Writ denied.

No. 24.

Louis Morrison
vs.
The state of Nebraska.

Horse stealing, from Adams county. Reversed.

No. 25.

James R. Gandy
vs.
The State of Nebraska.

Contempt. From Richardson county. Reversed.

No. 26.

John Ray
vs.
The State of Nebraska.

Concealing horse thief. From Fillmore county. Reversed.

No. 27.

Gus Gettinger
vs.
The State of Nebraska.

Grand Larceny. From Otoe county. Argued and submitted.

No. 28.

Charles J. Comstock
vs.
The State of Nebraska.

Rape. From York county. Argued and submitted.

No. 29.

Charles H. Folden
vs.
The State of Nebraska.

From Fillmore county. Affirmed.

No. 30.

Dominicus Hasty
vs.
John Wallichs, Auditor.

Application for a writ of *mandamus* to compel the Auditor to register bonds; writ denied.

No. 31.

William Ogden
vs.
The State of Nebraska.

Affirmed.

SCHEDULE "B."

LIST OF CASES PENDING IN THE SUPREME COURT.

No. 1.

Charles B. De Groat
vs.
The State of Nebraska.

Arson. From Douglas county.

No. 2.

George Hart
vs.
The State Nebraska.

Murder. From Hall county.

No. 3.

Orlando Butcher *et al.*
vs.
The State of Nebraska.
} Riot. From Holt county. Continued by plaintiff in error.

No. 4.

L. F. Lewis
vs.
The State of Nebraska.
} Petit larceny. From Washington county.

No. 5.

State *ex rel.* Geo. Hart
vs.
George W. Post, Judge.
} Application for a *mandamus* to compel respondent to sign bill of exceptions.

No 6.

The State of Nebraska
vs.
Charles Brendt.
} Under advisement.

No. 7.

Frank Denman
vs.
The State of Nebraska.
} Manslaughter. From Lancaster county.

No. 8.

Jerry Ackerman
vs.
The State of Nebraska.
} Contempt. From Richardson county.

No. 9.

Dakota County
vs.
S. J. Alexander, Sec. of State, and John Wallichs, Auditor.
} Application for a *mandamus* to compel the respondents to register bonds.

No. 10.

Thomas Jones vs. The State of Nebraska on behalf of Clara Gibson.	Bastardy. From Fillmore county.

No. 11.

James Dolen vs. The State of Nebraska.	Liquor selling. From Gage county.

SCHEDULE C.

LIST OF CASES IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE.

No. 1.

Biantha Latham vs. The State of Nebraska.	In the District Court of Lancaster county. Suing on claims against the State. Stands for trial.

No. 2.

William Young vs. Tne State of Nebraska.	In the District Court of Lancaster county. Suing on claims against the State. Stands for trial.

No. 3.

State of Nebraska, vs. F. W. Liedtke *et al.*	Suit in York county against Liedtke and his bondsmen. Judgment obtained against Liedtke and stands for trial against the sureties.

No. 4.

State of Nebraska vs. William B. Thorne *et al.*	Suit on Official Bond to collect defalcation. Stands for trial in Adams county.

No. 5.

State of Nebraska vs. Lyman Frost *et al.*	Suit in Lancaster District Court.

No. 6.

State of Nebraska vs. John Cadman *et al.*	Sute in Lancaster county to foreclose Mortgage. All settled but the costs.

No. 7.

State of Nebraska vs. Nelson C. Brock *et al.*	All settled but costs.

SCHEDULE D.

LIST OF CASES IN THE UNITED STATES COURT.

No. 1

Hillsdale College vs. W. F. Chapin.	Judgment against Chapin in favor of the State, and order for the sale of the property issued.

No. 2.

The State of Nebraska vs. John Young *et al.*	This case was taken from the State Court to the United States Court by Young. Stands for trial.

No. 3.

Geo. W. Hoagland vs. The State of Nebraska.	Action in ejectment to recover the Gillespie property. Judgment in favor of the State. Appealed to the Supreme Court of the United States.

SCHEDULE E.

No. 1.

Andrew Munson *et al.* vs. The State of Nebraska.	This was a case where the plaintiffs tried to timber claim lands claimed by the State. Contest in the United States Land Office. Decided in favor of the State.

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OF

JAMES W. DAWES,

GOVERNOR,

TO THE

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA.

EIGHTEENTH SESSION.

JANUARY, A. D. 1883.

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GENTLEMEN OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

Having been called by the people of Nebraska to serve them in the capacity of their chief executive, it is in obedience to time honored custom that I appear before you to-day.

In entering upon the discharge of the duties pertaining to the position, I am deeply impressed with its responsibilities, and the magnitude of the trust placed in my keeping.

It is my determination to devote my best efforts to the service of the people, and I shall serve them with all honesty of purpose and earnest endeavor.

In obedience to the requirements of the constitution the officers of the executive department and of all the public institutions of the state have severally reported to the Governor.

An examination of the various reports will satisfy the most critical that the affairs of the State are in a satisfactory condition; and they furnish ample evidence of the fact that the interests of the state have been in able and trustworthy hands. For a detailed statement of the condition of affairs you are referred to the message of my predecessor that has just been read to you, and to the reports above mentioned, which are full of valuable information concerning public affairs. I would ask for them all a careful and painstaking examination at your hands, and that the various suggestions and recommendations therein contained may receive the consideration to which their merit entitles them.

This examination should be early and careful and you will find that economy has characterized public expenditures, and efficiency and faithfulness been manifest in all the State departments and institutions.

I submit the following suggestions and recommendations:

IMMIGRATION.

The superior advantages and attractions of soil and climate possessed in so high a degree by Nebraska, have been and will continue to be the leading influences operating to promote the steady growth and development of our State.

It should be our policy to supplement these natural advantages in every possible way by wise and liberal legislation, to the end that immigrants from other lands, and all who may be looking for homes in the west, may be attracted towards and influenced to find homes within our limits. The question of such legislation as may be advisable or necessary to enable us to realize this policy and reap its certain benefits is referred to you for solution.

AGRICULTURE.

The agricultural interests of Nebraska were never more prosperous than at the present time. Among the most serviceable agents in the advertisement of our State have been our agricultural and horticultural societies. All reasonable aid that you may see fit to extend them will bring a certain and satisfactory return.

Reports from the various county and State associations through out the country afford evidence of progress and growth in agriculture that is indeed most gratifying. The exhibitions at our own State and county fairs during the past year were the

best ever had in the State. A steady adherence to grain raising alone tends to impoverish the soil. That the farmers of our State will find it to their advantage to diversify their industries there can be but little if any doubt, and we have reason for congratulation in the fact that our farmers are devoting more and more attention to the growth and breeding of stock, and less to the growth of grain, that must at such great expense be transported to a distant market. Agriculture is at the present time, and will be for years to come, if not always, the leading interest of our State, and as such it will no doubt receive at your hands such consideration and care as the great importance of the subject demands.

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

The subject of a thorough geological survey of the State is commended to your most careful consideration. It is believed by competent judges that we have within our borders coal in abundance; and the importance of the fuel question alone would seem to warrant a reasonable expenditure looking to the development of our hidden resources. Such surveys awaken an interest among the people to seek and examine for themselves, and by such surveys other States have added largely to their resources.

Under the management of a scientific and thoroughly practical man it would, I feel assured, be productive of great good both to the cause of science and the material progress of the State.

If the work should be entered upon it is highly important that it be prosecuted with the greatest economy possible consistent with the result desired.

EDUCATION.

Our educational institutions, public and private, are making commendable progress. It is entirely unnecessary for me to urge upon you considerations in support of the proposition that our common school system should be carefully and steadily developed, to the end that it shall most fully meet the high purpose for which it was established; and we can devote our time, or our strength to no higher purpose than that of devising measures calculated to strengthen and improve this sacred interest. We all agree that upon the wide-spread and thorough diffusion of knowledge depends in great measure the happiness of our people, and the safety of our system of government. Recognizing this fact the nation has made provision for the most generous aid from the public property, and this trust will receive conscientious guardianship at your hands, that in the end the results rightfully to be expected from a proper use of our educational resources may be fully attained. For no other purpose will the people more willingly and cheerfully give than in support of the cause of education, if they can but have reasonable assurance that their means so contributed will be economically and wisely used.

Your special attention is called to the question of text-books for our common schools. The frequent change of books is attended with an expense to parents that in many cases is burdensome in the extreme, and it is hoped that you may devise some plan looking to a reduction of the expense to which parents are subjected on this account.

MILITIA.

If it is the policy of the State to maintain its military force, there should be ample appropriation made for equipping it in a thorough and efficient manner.

While it is to be sincerely hoped that the day may never again come when the civil authorities of Nebraska will be under the extreme necessity of calling for military assistance, yet should that time come the most serious consequences might result if there were not a well disciplined and properly armed militia to answer such demand.

We can scarcely hope to always escape tumults and disorders such as have arisen in other states, tumults or outbreaks that are as a rule, or at least in a majority of cases, incited, encouraged and led by a lawless and disreputable class of persons, those who, lacking habits of thrift and industry themselves, seek, by fomenting public disorder and a spirit of discontent among those of steady habits, to reap the benefits that under such circumstances inure to them alone, for in the end almost invariably honest labor meets the expense and is the loser. Our militia is for the protection of honest industry and honest labor, whether of high or low degree. It is, therefore, of interest to all, as well as the part of prudence and economy, to make such preparation as experience has shown to be needed for the suppression of such outbreaks as may be too formidable to be controlled by the civil authorities, and liable to arise at any time. You will no doubt take such action in the premises as in your judgment is deemed best, for the interests and welfare of the State.

PROTECTIVE LEGISLATION.

There is an evil of considerable magnitude which of late years has prevailed in many localities of our State, to the great injury of large numbers of our people. I refer particularly to the sale of bogus or fraudulent patent rights, and of stock in fictitious or pretended corporations, by which unsuspecting persons,

through various devices, have been induced to make worthless purchases, and give in payment their negotiable promissory notes, which by a transfer to innocent holders they were finally compelled to pay.

There seems to be a well founded doubt in the minds of many whether, in the present condition of our criminal law, such fraudulent practices can be reached and punished, which probably accounts for the fact that such sales are made so frequently, and with seeming immunity from punishment. I would, therefore, respectfully suggest the propriety of incorporating into the law, by amendment or otherwise, a suitable provision remedying this defect.

RAILROAD PASSES.

The custom on the part of railroad corporations of granting passes to state officials and members of the legislature, is one of long standing, and I might say of almost universal practice. While I do not believe that passes have been given or intended in the nature of a bribe, or for the purpose or with the expectation of improperly influencing the action of individuals, or that they have been considered by those who may have taken and used them as placing them under any obligation, direct or indirect, the fact yet remains that a pass represents value and its acceptance is for that reason of doubtful propriety. To the end that representatives of the people may be enabled to avoid even the bare suspicion of having been improperly influenced in their action or in the faithful discharge of their public duties, it is recommended that a law be enacted prohibiting the granting of passes to officers of the executive department of the state, members of the Legislature, and to any of the class of officials who, by reason of their public position, may have it within their power

either to confer or withhold favors or benefits to railroad corporations.

RAILROAD CORPORATIONS.

In this connection I will quote from Article eleven (XI), entitled Corporations, of the Constitution of the State of Nebraska, sections numbered four (4) and seven (7):

"SECTION 4. Railways heretofore constructed or that may hereafter be constructed in this state, are hereby declared public highways, and shall be free to all persons for the transportation of their persons and property thereon, under such regulations as may be prescribed by law. And the Legislature may from time to time pass laws establishing reasonable maximum rates of charges for the transportation of passengers and freights on the different railroads in this State. The liability of railroad corporations as common carriers shall never be limited.

"SEC. 7. The Legislature shall pass laws to correct abuses and prevent unjust discrimination and extortion in all charges of express, telegraph and railroad companies in this State, and enforce such laws by adequate penalties to the extent, if necessary for that purpose, of forfeiture of their property and franchises."

These citations are made for the reason [illegible]ring before your minds directly, and in the most forcible manner, the fact that by virtue of these provisions in our fundamental law the people have reserved to themselves absolute power in all matters pertaining to the correction of abuses, extortions or unjust discrimination upon the part of railroads or other corporations.

Railroads may be justly regarded as among the most important factors in the rapid development of our State, and it is of vital importance to all interests that they be sustained and encouraged, for it must be remembered that such corporations are indispensable to the material prosperity of the State. They have in the past been dealt with generously by both the Nation and the State; and there is to-day no sentiment among our people such as demands that the railroads should be either destroyed, or crippled to the extent of impairing their usefulness, or so restricted as to deprive them of a legitimate return upon capital invested. If the railroads have been unjust, the people will not in turn be unjust. The people cannot afford to be unjust to any interest; but will be careful that the rights of the public as against corporations are protected by efficient laws. It is only asked that such control and regulation be had as will be just and fair considering the respective rights of both the people and the corporations. This is no unreasonable demand. It is such a demand as keeps steadily in view the important fact that with our resources as yet all but undeveloped we must not repel capital by legislation such as would hazard our best interests. In legislating it should be kept constantly in mind that corporations should have the same protection from the laws that any citizen has, and that capital invested in railroads must be protected equally with capital invested in any other branch of industry. To just that protection it is entitled, and to no more.

If the railroads have been oppressive it is for the Legislature to apply the needed correction.

Whether the railroads are at the present time managed in a fair and just manner is a question for you to decide, and it is to be hoped that you may be so guided in your deliberations that

you may be enabled to find the golden mean in legislation, and enact such a law as will be not only just to capital, but at the same time fully protect the rights of the people. As a guide in considering a question of such grave importance, so difficult and perplexing, it would seem the part of wisdom to avail ourselves of the experience of other states.

You will find me at all times ready to co-operate with you in such action as may be necessary for the protection of the public interests.

HASTY LEGISLATION.

By the terms of our Constitution it is provided that members of the Legislature shall not receive pay for more than forty days at any one session.

The compensation is small at best, and but few can afford to remain at their own expense. It is therefore important that your work be done within the constitutional limit, as to time for which you will receive pay, and for the further reason that an undue prolonging of the session is adding unnecessarily to the expenses incident thereto, and placing additional burdens upon the treasury.

The interest and excitement attending the election of a United States Senator has resulted in times past in the neglect of other important business, and to undue haste in the dispatch of business in the closing days of the session.

To remedy this evil of hasty and poorly considered legislation, you should, it seems to me, apply yourself promptly and vigorously to the work before you, and in this way mature and perfect the more important subjects of legislation at the earliest practicable day. You will by so doing make it possible for all whose duty it is to do so, to examine and understand measures they are

called upon to support before acting upon them, and you will thus be enabled to best meet the wishes of those you represent. To you, coming directly from the people, their immediate representatives, this is a consideration of grave moment.

PROGRESS.

In the progress we have thus far made as a State and in the present gratifying condition of affairs, as well as in the promising outlook for the future, we as a people have abundant cause for congratulation and rejoicing.

Under the guidance of the source of all wisdom, may we, into whose hands the honor of our State has been committed, so acquit ourselves of the trust, so perform the work assigned us, that the good name Nebraska has thus far borne may receive no stain, and that we may in some degree aid in strengtheng, in making yet more broad and firm, the foundations of her future greatness.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, I wish to assure you that in all measures calculated to promote the honor, prosperity and general welfare of the State, you will have my earnest co-operation, and that in entering upon the discharge of the duties of the Executive department, it is in the firm belief that you will extend to me your generous aid and counsel.

JAMES W. DAWES.

LINCOLN, *January 4, 1883.*

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